

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1 and 3-8 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Rejection Under 35 USC 112

Claims 1 and 3-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Examiner indicates that the independent claims recite providing a bottom substrate with the liquid crystal before forming the sealant. The Examiner indicates that it has not been stated how this can be accomplished without mixing the sealant with a liquid crystal. The Examiner points out that Applicants have previously argued that the sealant is on one substrate and the liquid crystal on the other as is known in the art. The Examiner points out that this is not the reading of the claims.

By way of the present Amendment, Applicants have amended the claims to make it clear that the top substrate contains a liquid crystal and the bottom substrate receives the sealant. Thus, Applicants submit that there is no longer any problem with enablement since there is no problem concerning the mixing when the sealant is on a different substrate than the liquid crystal.

Applicants have also amended the specification on page 8 to also point out that the sealant is dispensed on the bottom substrate and the liquid crystal is formed on the top substrate. Applicants submit that the addition of this sentence does not add any new matter since this arrangement is known in the prior art as was previously argued.

In particular, the technology of “one drop fill” was presented in U.S. Patent 5,263,888 to Ishihara et al. As stated at Col. 1, lines 56-61 of that reference, sealing member 22 is formed in a periphery region of one substrate 20A while liquid crystal is dropped onto the other substrate 20B. The reference also points out that the sealing member is formed on an electrode surface of a substrate and at least one drop of liquid crystal material is formed on another substrate and the pair of substrates are superposed (Col. 2, lines 60-68). While the present invention did not specifically recite whether the liquid crystal was on the top substrate or the bottom substrate, it is clear from the prior art that it is known to have the liquid crystal on one substrate and the sealant on the other. Accordingly, Applicants submit that no new matter is being introduced.

Furthermore, U.S. Patent 6,870,590 to Lee et al. shows how to control a liquid crystal so as to enable a sealant to be applied without mixing. In this reference, a separating wall is formed on the first substrate and around a periphery of the first substrate in the non-display area to block the liquid crystal from spilling out. The liquid crystal is then formed by one drop fill technology inside the separating wall and the

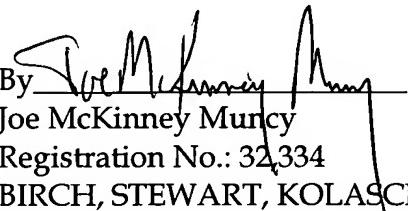
sealant is formed on the periphery of another substrate. Thus, this reference also suggests how the liquid crystal and sealant can be arranged so as to not be mixed. Accordingly, Applicants further submit that the changes to the specification and claims are not new matter.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the specification and claims now fully meet the enablement requirement and that no new matter has been introduced into the application. In view of this, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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